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FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6193  
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHLC/AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 0443  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0336  
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT 7603  
RHMFSS/CDR USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0528

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 000177

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/19/2017

TAGS: PGOV PREL GV MR

SUBJECT: TFGV01: DEMARCHE ON THE CRISIS IN GUINEA:  
MAURITANIA

REF: STATE 19838 CONAKRY 186 CONAKRY 179

Classified By: CHARGE D'AFFAIRES CHARLES H. TWINING FOR REASON 1.4 (B,D)  
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¶1. (C) Charge called on Foreign Minister Ahmed Ould Sid'Ahmed February 19 to present demarche (ref A) and to deliver a copy of Embassy Conakry's public statement (ref B). Sid'Ahmed took careful note of our position and objectives. His eyes widened, however, when we asked that President Vall consider requesting President Conte to "step aside" per para.8, ref A, asking that we repeat it.

¶2. (C) Promising to pass along our demarche, the Minister requested that we keep him informed of developments, and we asked that he do the same with us. He said he would be particularly interested to know whether any other governments have agreed to take the actions that we are requesting of the GIRM.

¶3. (C) Comment. Almost certainly the Mauritanians will not get out front on this issue. As is their custom, they will prefer to wait and see what others will do before considering whether to become engaged themselves alongside. We will seek other opportunities to raise the issue and will appreciate further guidance, as appropriate.

Twining